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UNITY

Freedom, Fellowship and Character in Religion

Official Organ of the Congress of Religion

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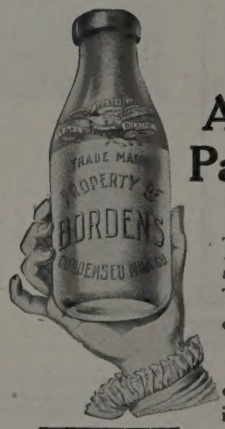

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VOLUME LX | THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1907 | NUMBER 15

THE MESSENGER.

(For the Picture by G. F. Watts.)

Strong angel of the peace of God,
  Not wholly undivined thy mien;
Along the weary path I trod
  Thou hast been with me tho' unseen.

My hopes have been a mad turmoil,
  A clutch and conflict all my life,
The very craft I loved a toil,
  And love itself a seed of strife.

But sometimes in a sudden hour
  I have been great with Godlike calm,
As if thy tranquil world of power
  Flowed in about me like a psalm.

And peace has fallen on my face,
  And stillness on my struggling breath;
And, living, I have known a space,
  The hush and mastery of Death.

Stretch out thy hand upon me, thou
  Who comest as the still night comes!
I have not flinched at buffets, now
  Let strife go by, with all his drums.

—*Richard Hovey.*

The Book Harvest

Once more it becomes UNITY's privilege to make its annual enumeration of the books that, for better or for worse, have lodged upon the senior editor's table during the year. At this close range it is impossible, even for one gifted with more leisure and critical ability, to establish that just perspective which will determine the permanent from the transient, the more important from the less important. But it is safe to pronounce it a busy year among book-makers. The great cylinder presses have continued their ceaseless rounds, turning out books, most of them doomed to the early death of the first edition and others doomed to a more ignoble life, by a popularity that proves a superficiality or something worse which attracts for the hour indolent minds. It is sad to think of the increasing army of readers who read that they may not think; who read that their minds, and what is worse, their conscience, may rest; who turn to books and magazines as a cloak to hide their indolence, an excuse for aimless lives. In America today, to declare one an inveterate reader is a doubtful compliment, and "What readest thou?" is more and more a searching question.

The manufacture of books has become more and more a business with a sordid inspiration. Adventurous capital has called forth much commercial ingenuity in discovering new excuses for bringing new editions of old material into the market, and the best of books are forced into the hands of those who profit little by them, now by the cheapness and now by the sumptuousness of the editions offered. In the department stores standard authors are offered in fairly attractive cloth bindings for eight cents per volume and upwards, and the irrepressible "book agent" and "lady canvasser" will offer the same authors in sumptuous volumes and elegant bindings of "limited editions" that make them the fashionable furnishings for the "libraries," that are never used, of globe-trotting millionaires.

With the return of this annual book review we recall with comfort the Emerson rule, "Read no book that is not a year old," yet the new output of books is perhaps after all the safest estimate of the year's progress, the sanest index of the life of a people. And so, a list of the books of the year, gathered under any circumstances, is not without its value; hence UNITY persists in its annual review.

Poetry

KIPLING—"The Collected Verse" (Doubleday, Page & Co.) of this author, which combine in one volume the Ballads, Departmental Ditties, The Seven Seas and The Five Nations of previous editions, indicates the poverty of the poetry market. The Swedish committee could do no better than to bestow upon this army minstrel, the laureate of Tommy Atkins, the great Nobel peace prize. We are glad to have a rearrangement of these poems and to be able to compare what he calls "The Service Songs of the South African War" and "The Barrack Room Ballads" of the "Indian Service." Surely there is growth here, in the right direction, for the African songs, which are in the main the later, contain more frequent notes of universality and give added testimony of what Kipling might have been to the world had there been a slight change in his environment or heredity, an added drop of genius. As it is, Kipling remains the most tantalizing and disappointing man in English letters. His high gifts are so rimmed by the bumptiousness of the Anglo-Saxon and so blinded by the glamor of war. Turning from our centennial study of Whittier's poetry to these Collected Verses of Kipling, one realizes how necessary is the fervor of the prophet to the true bard.

ENGLISH POEMS, (University of Chicago Press). Prof. Walter C. Bronson, of Brown University, has prepared another Nineteenth Century Anthology, designed especially for college uses, which offers in one convenient, attractive volume the unchallenged classics. Perhaps its excellence establishes its limitation.

A "collection" is convenient to go to for what you want, but a doubtful means of discovering what you need. The student of botany is not helped much by bouquets.

THE GARDEN ANTHOLOGY (Routledge), by Rose Gardner, is indeed a poetical bouquet of great riches, celebrating the wealth of the garden and the orchard. This little book comes to us without a date, but it is full of the fragrance of the garden, offered to us by the generous hands of many poets.

THE COMING OF PHILIBERT (Macmillan), by Sara King Wiley, is a modest drama indicative that creative poetry is not wholly dead. In it is real poetry and true dramatic elements touched with that conception of ethics which recognizes the complexity of life. It is no longer a choice between a right and a wrong, but it is the choice between many right things to do. The task of modern culture is to establish the true perspective and to point out the things that are more excellent.

> "If there were but a single path of right,
> And all ways else iniquitous, how swift
> We'd tread it, though through thorns of agony.
> But life is like a vast, untraveled wood,
> Seeming to open into sun-flecked roads,
> That close in tangled gloom. What shall I do?"

ORPHEUS TODAY (The Western Literary Press, Cincinnati). William Norman Guthrie has made for himself a large constituency in Chicago and elsewhere as an University Extension lecturer on literary subjects, while at the same time he is a busy and successful rector of an Episcopalian church in California. This big book of 355 pages, containing his "St. Francis of the Trees and Other Verses," testifies to the fertility of his imagination and the adventurous quality of his spirit. Whitman, Browning, Ibsen, and the French dramatists are among Mr. Guthrie's inspirations. Subsequent editions of this book may lessen its bulk, but it will testify to the fact that there is real stuff here worth knowing.

Fiction

W. D. HOWELLS—"Through the Eye of the Needle" and "Between the Dark and the Daylight" (Harpers) are two volumes that come from the hand of this master novelist of the United States. The time has gone by when it was worth while to discuss Howells' place in American letters; his preëminence is established beyond question. Mr. Howells adds to the artist's skill the poet's vision. His "Through the Eye of the Needle" is a book which no one interested in American welfare, particularly in the current problems connected herewith, can afford to be ignorant of. It is as graceful as it is masterly; as searching as it is aggressive. It is a ripened sequel to his "Altruria." A visitor from that country reports on the situation in the United States today. During his visit he captures the heart of an American woman and love carries her back into the country of Altruria, where her head surrenders and she becomes a devoted champion of that freer, franker, simpler life in Altruria and reports the same in a series of letters written to a friend in America, as the Altrurian had reported the conditions found here. The letters from Altruria may be disposed of as representing a lovely fabric in dreamland, too good to be true, but the letters of the Altrurian in America are too realistic, too painfully true to be evaded. The artistic grace and power of this book will compel many of the cultured conservatives who shrink from the vulgarity of sociological agitation to read this book, and reading it they will be caught in the toils of their own better nature. It is an appeal to the saner self of those who dwell on the boulevard and ride in their automobiles as well as to the angered vehemence of the unilluminated drudge of the kitchen, the farm yard and machine shop.

It is a far cry from this "Through the Eye of the Needle" to the second volume "Between the Dark and the Daylight," which contains seven stories which are creepy with the delightful spookiness that becomes the twilight hour. All of them are studies of that borderland in psychology, a study of which broadens the sympathies and ameliorates the dogmatism of the student. Editha is one of the most effective exposures of the wickedness of the war spirit and the barbarity of much that passes for patriotism that we have met for a long while. The peace societies of the world would do well to circulate it as a little tract for the times by the million copies.

THE BROKEN LANCE (Bobbs-Merrill Company), by Herbert Quick, is a poor story but a noble book. The homeletic aptitude, the familiarity with his Bible and his disposition to make speeches leads one to suspect that the author, like the hero of the book, is a preacher, thwarted in his preaching by the trammels of the present day pulpit. The impossible situations in the book greatly limit its effectiveness, but the "social problem" is carried all the way from the Kansas prairie to Halsted street and the stock yards in Chicago, and it is discussed in right manly fashion. The arguments are too searching, based on facts too well established to be evaded.

THE TURN OF THE BALANCE (Bobbs-Merrill), by Whitlock, the successor of "Golden Rule" Jones as Mayor of Toledo, is a more ambitious story from the same press, a book which we believe has not yet been put on the market. Like the work of Herbert Quick, it is defective in plot. The story drags painfully, but it is an ineffective Les Miserables, a study that has the Victor Hugo frankness, insight into misery and penetrating sympathies, without, of course, the transcendent imagination that fuses it all into an immortal work. But we misunderstand the trend of the times and the soul of 1907 if these two stories from the Indianapolis publishing house did not come red hot from the storm center of the day; they represent the holy quest of the times.

THE DAWN OF A TOMORROW (Scribners), by Frances Hodgson Burnett, is a dainty little study coming

out of the same storm center alluded to above. Here the victim of unilluminated wealth is called back to life by the devoutness found in a human bundle of rags on London bridge.

The Iron Way (A. C. McClurg & Co.) comes pretty nearly being the truly American novel we have been waiting for so long. Its pages are vivid with pictures and incidents intensely American. Sarah Pratt Carr was the daughter of a California pioneer, one of the railroad builders, and the book could have been written by no other. Here the story of the first trans-continental railway is told and the pages flame with danger, courage, love. It could not be truthfully told in any other way. This is a good story for American boys and girls to read.

The Welding (Little, Brown & Co.), by Lafayette McLaws, is a most significant though unconscious indication that the "reconstruction period" has at last come into the too long distracted nation. Here is a southern woman writing a story of slavery and the war, into which she introduces Alexander Stevens, John Brown, Jefferson Davis, Horace Greeley, Robert E. Lee and Abraham Lincoln as characters. Later along this material will be more wisely used and more critically adjusted; enough that at last it is being used. Not the least significant fact concerning this book is that it was written by a woman, and it is an open secret that the women of the south are the last to be reconciled to the bitter outcomes of the war. "I am reconstructed, but this new wife of mine is still a hot little rebel," said a happy groom to the writer on the decks of an ocean steamer as they were outward bound for their honeymoon. This story will help along the welding of the nation.

Family Secrets (Macmillan), by Marion Foster Washburne. We do not know whether we ought to put this sprightly book into the realm of fiction or not. Mrs. Washburne is too well known in Chicago as a vigorous champion of reforms and a dauntless enemy of social wrongs for her friends to easily think of her as of wearing even a thin veil of romance at her work. But be it fiction or fact, here is a wholesome book for urbanites and suburbanites. A home-maker has here disclosed some of her secrets for the benefit of any family that will consult her. How many housekeepers can understand this line concerning "The peaceful home?" "There are periods when just to keep it clean wears our immortal spirits to a frazzle."

The Cruise of the Shining Light (Harpers), by Norman Duncan, and Nina's Career (Macmillan), by Christina Goan Whyte, are two books that may be taken as a type of the long list of the year's stories which this reviewer has not read, but which he would venture on if only there were time.

Ghetto Comedies (Macmillan), by Israel Zangwill. Admirers of Mr. Zangwill's short stories will be glad to find him returning to his first love and giving himself to his wonderful gift of portraying the inner life of the Ghetto and discovering the pathos, tragedy and power of the Jewish heart.

Stories and Sketches (Putnams), by Mary Putnam Jacobi. This lamented name is inseparably associated with problems of society and the physician's art. This belated book of sketches, made up of magazine contributions published during her younger years in the '60s, shows that what was the gain of science was the loss of literature. As far back as 1870 so competent a judge as Richard Watson Gilder pronounced her one of the best of American magazine writers.

Biography, History, Etc.

Letters of Queen Victoria (Longmans), three sumptuous volumes in flaming red, of nearly six hundred pages each, represent the most ambitious bookmaking that has reached the editorial table this year. The set is marked at fifteen dollars net, and still the correspondence represents only forty-one out of the eighty-two years of her life; these letters terminate in 1860. To those who believe that there can be nothing unimportant in the life of a queen these volumes are of great value; to those who respect the personality and who regard Queen Victoria as on the whole a dear though somewhat stupid old lady, these volumes will be regarded with curiosity; the student interested in the current life of the English government will regard these books as a valuable mine in which to delve for side lights upon the lives of the great men and women of the Victorian age; to the student of art the portraits and illustrations in the book are valuable; to all classes there is something in these sumptuous volumes that is interesting.

Little Journeys to the Homes of Eminent Artists and Eminent Orators (Putnams). Whatever may be thought of the other work of Elbert Hubbard, there can be no difference of opinion concerning the value of these exquisite little biographies that he has given us. These volumes, which are the eighth and ninth in the series, are no disappointment. The first begins with Raphael and ends with Whistler. Here are eleven artists graphically portrayed and beautifully illustrated. But even in these biographies, which clearly represent Mr. Hubbard's most careful work, there is a great range between his best and his poorest. Witness the altogether delightful simplicity and directness of his study of Corot and the somewhat stilted and inflated sketch of Whistler, too much loaded with Hubbard mannerisms. In selecting the twelve orators for the second of these volumes, the last in the noble series, Mr. Hubbard was on more dangerous ground. When one is unguided by the verdict of history the personal equation is a dangerous bias. Five out of this list, which contains the names of Pericles, Savonarola and Luther, are Americans, viz., Ingersoll, Patrick Henry, Starr King, Henry Ward Beecher and Wendell Phillips. Ingersoll and Starr King doubtless had great oratorical power, but it is a question whether history will give them a seat alongside of those mentioned. Be that as it may, Mr. Hubbard has put his American in a good light and

these books may well claim a place with their fellows in every gentleman's library as well as on every working woman's book-shelf, for there is that in them that will rest and inspire.

Henry Hudson (Putnams). This life of the intrepid navigator of Western waters by Edgar Mayhew Bacon is a welcome volume in the tempting series of "American Men of Energy" in which Franklin, Henry Knox, Audubon, Israel Putnam and James Lawrence, Commander of the "Chesapeake," are the preceding numbers. The volume is well equipped with maps and illustrations. Notwithstanding the length of the Mississippi and the romance that gathers around its tributaries, the Hudson River is still the sacred river in American history. Its banks are peopled with heroes and its waters freighted with romance. Let the American boys read the story of Henry Hudson.

The Military Memoirs of a Confederate (Scribners), by E. P. Alexander. We have already spoken of the reconstruction novel; here is a more valuable witness of a true reconstruction. General Alexander was much of his time Chief of Artillery in Longstreet's corps of the Confederate Army, and in this book of over 600 pages he gives us a critical study of the campaign of the Eastern army, reaching from Bull Run (July, 1861) to the surrender at Appomattox (April, 1865), and it is probably not saying too much that it is the most impartial study yet offered of those complex campaigns. With wonderful impartiality and splendid magnanimity he exposes mistakes and commends triumphs as he discovers them on both sides the line. The military details in these Memoirs let us hope will grow less and less valuable in the mind of the student, but as they grow less valuable the story of valor and self-denial, of suffering and of consecration as manifested on both sides will grow in importance and interest.

Mother Bickerdyke, as I Knew Her (Unity Publishing Company), by Florence Shaw Kellogg, with an introduction by Jenkin Lloyd Jones, is a small, but by no means unimportant, contribution to that growing element of interest in the war alluded to in the above notice. As the years roll by the joke of General Sherman will become sober history, "She outranks me." The mother element in war, the tender side of the rough and roughening battle fronts has never been more nobly vindicated than in the triumphs of her whom thousands of soldiers learned to know and love as "Mother Bickerdyke."

Shakespeare, by Walter Raleigh, and Ralph Waldo Emerson, by George E. Woodberry (Macmillan), are the two volumes added to the admirable series of English Men of Letters. We know of nothing more ready to the hand of the busy student than this series of books, edited by John Morley, which now includes most of the great men of English letters. These two volumes are welcome additions to a series already rich.

Robert Browning and Alfred Domett (E. P. Dutton & Co.) The publishing of letters written by eminent men which were never meant for public eye is a liberty taken with the dead too much over-worked by modern publishers, as we think. Robert Browning and his wife have not been exempt from these "Peeping Toms" who have hastened to give to the public that which the public did not need, but on the profits of which the publishers counted. This little book, which contains the letters of the three Camberwell boys, each of which in their own way became nobly famous, is an exception, and the Browning library is greatly enriched by it. Robert Browning died at seventy-seven; Alfred Domett, the original of "Waring" in Browning's poem, the organizing secretary in New Zealand and author of the second most noble Christmas hymn in the English language, died at seventy-six; Joseph Arnould, the jurist who served England nobly as Judge of the Supreme Court of Bombay, lived to be seventy-three. These three men were playmates in their youths and congenial spirits through their lives, and this little book throws some interesting side lights upon a charming friendship which heightened their public service.

With Wordsworth in England (McClurg). This is the fourth of Mrs. Anna B. McMahan's interesting weaving of poet's texts with a traveler's comment and camera's interpretation. Unity has taken note of her "Florence in the Poetry of the Brownings," "With Shelley in Italy" and "With Byron in Italy." In this volume Wordsworth has been "extracted" with a view of bringing out the beauty of English scenery; the illustrations, of which there are some seventy, are charming, and the change in the color of the ink in which the pictures are printed is a great improvement on the earlier volumes. This volume should accompany all those who go to the lake country and should go far to compensate the deprivations of those who may never go there.

The Religion of Ruskin (Winona Publishing Company, Chicago). The works of John Ruskin are so voluminous, covering so wide arrangement of topics that hand-books, guides, anthologies, etc., become absolutely necessary to the busy man and woman who would win in the end to a comprehensive appreciation of this, one of the most virile and stimulating of modern writers. William Burgess, in this biographical and anthological study of Ruskin, has done an admirable piece of work. The volume covers some four hundred pages, is elaborately indexed and carefully analyzed. There are seventy pages of biography, and then his Thoughts of Art, Architecture, Nature, Life, Poetry and Political Economy are analyzed and quoted with a view of discovering the essential religiousness of the man. This work of Mr. Burgess is a worthy comparison of his previous work of a similar nature on Shakespeare.

Mexico and the People of Today (L. C. Page),

by N. O. Winter. Anything that will increase our acquaintance with our nearest neighbors to the south is a contribution to patriotism. The author, who is an American, has tried to give within reasonable space a working introduction to these interesting and little understood neighbors. The book is interestingly illustrated and well furnished with maps.

History of the People of the Netherlands (Putnams), by Prof. Petrus Johannes Blok, of the University of Leyden. This mountainous work, which has been in process of publication for several years, has reached its fourth volume and brings the history down to the end of the seventeenth century; the forthcoming part five promises to complete the story. It will be a notable work when completed and will take its place as the standard history for a long time to come.

Girolamo Savonarola (Jennings & Graham, Cincinnati). This study of the great "Prophet of Religion" by William H. Crawford, President of Allegheny College, is a timely one and constitutes a noble contribution to a series on "Men of the Kingdom," of which there are six others out. Savonarola was the Luther before Luther. In him is the pulpit vindicated for all time and the identity of the prophet and the statesman demonstrated; let the theological students and young preachers who half doubt the legitimacy of the preacher's calling, or who suspect that the pulpit is to be outgrown, read the story of Savonarola and take new hold of their great vocation.

David Libbey (American Unitarian Association). This story of the Penobscot Woodsman and Riverdriver People, by Fannie H. Eckstorm, is a fourth in the series of Little Biographies of True American Types published by the A. U. A. Dr. Charles W. Eliot's "John Gilley," Maine Farmer and Fisherman; Robert Collyer's "Augustus Conant," Illinois Pioneer and Preacher; John W. Chadwick's "Cap'n Chadwick," Marblehead Skipper and Shoemaker, are the other titles in the series. If there is any place left for Sunday School literature, as such these books deserve a high place in such a catalogue. They are sane, sound and sanitary.

Fingerposts to Children's Reading (A. C. McClurg & Co.), by Walter Taylor Field. Speaking of children's reading, perhaps no more good sense and suggestive lists are obtainable anywhere within the same limits and cost as in this plain little book of 275 pages, packed with good sense.

Sociology

The year that gives us Rausenbusch's "Social Crisis," Jane Addams' "Newer Ideals of Peace," Guthrie's "Socialism Before the French Revolution" (Macmillan), and an American edition of Kropotkin's "The Conquest of Bread" (Putnams), offers adequate credentials of its seriousness and ability. Of Miss Addams' book Unity took prompt and early note. Professor Small's estimate of Professor Rausenbusch's book is found in another column. Guthrie's book would be valuable if it contained nothing else than the three chapters on Thomas More and his "Utopia," for Sir Thomas More is well characterized as the "first socialist theorist." His "Utopia" and Howells' "Through the Eye of the Needle" bracket four hundred years of high and holy quest for social equity and economic piety.

A Sovereign People (Doubleday, Page & Co.), a study of Swiss democracy, by Henry D. Lloyd, edited by John A. Hobson, startles one as a voice from the dead. One more noble book compiled by a competent hand from the notes of Mr. Lloyd. It is one more evidence of the strength of the man who went up and down the Chicago streets for so many years, and Chicago knew not its own. Mr. Hobson, inspired by the spirit and guided by the research of Mr. Lloyd, has given us a practical handbook in democracy, which ought to be in the hand and eventually in the mind of every legislator, state and national, throughout the United States. For little Switzerland has achieved a democracy that the United States and all the other republics must needs reckon with before they go much further.

Spirit of American Government (Macmillan), a study of the constitution, by Prof. J. Allen Smith, of the University of Washington. From over the mountains comes this creditable piece of academic work. Those who are disposed to treat the constitution of the United States as a fetich and regard it as the ultimate word in republican government will do well to ponder over the facts offered in chapter three, which reveals the fact that it was born out of a reactionary movement and that many of the measures and the men that have since grown dear to the people of the United States were distrusted and ingeniously guarded against by the framers of the constitution.

The Democratic Ideal (American Unitarian Association), by Milton Reed, is another witness to the tendency among religious publishing houses to include in their lists such books as contribute to civic righteousness and the welfare of the state.

> "If we live in an era of greed and graft, we also live in an era of enormous goodness, unparalleled philanthropy, increasing intelligence and growing ethical standards. Can there be any doubt which forces will win?"

The Spirit of Labor (Duffield & Co., New York), by Hutchins Hapgood, perhaps, more properly belongs in the list of fiction, but its handling is so realistic and the real men, women and movements in and around Chicago are so frankly used that it has to be taken as an attempt of an earnest young literary man to do some sociological laboratory work in Chicago. In his zeal for economic righteousness there is reason to feel that the author has allowed his sense of the value of individual purity and personal righteousness to be blurred at times. The hero of labor need not be trained to his efficiency by the discipline of the tramp or the sociological amenities of the saloon. Poverty and labor are not excuses for, though they may ex-

plain vulgarity, profanity and violent judgment. The author of this book will do well to forget it that he may in due time write a better one.

CONGRESSMAN PUMPHREY, THE PEOPLE'S FRIEND (Bobbs-Merrill Company), by John T. McCutcheon. This is only a reproduction in book form of the Pumphrey series of cartoons in the *Chicago Tribune,* but the American people, particularly the young men who aspire to a public career, will do well if they take it very seriously to heart. It would be a humorous book were it not so sadly true.

SEX AND SOCIETY (University of Chicago Press), by W. I. Thomas, and THE TRUTH ABOUT THE CONGO (Forbes & Co., Chicago), by Prof. Frederick Starr. These two books represent perhaps the most disturbing contributions of the year to current literature from the University on the Midway. Professor Thomas has carried the woman question back to its biological and anthropological sources and has studied the phenomena of sex and the psychology of marriage as based in the familiar experience of the race. Some of his conclusions are disturbing, some of his revelations humiliating; some things which still obtain among the would-be cultured and the refined are seen to be survivals of conditions and ideas which the modern man and woman would be glad to be free from.

Professor Starr's report of conditions in the Congo is still a matter of severe criticism on the part of those who claim to have had equal or superior opportunities with himself to study things at first hand. It is not to be expected that one man can see all around the circle, and it is not to be forgotten that while Professor Starr modified some of the reports and would ameliorate some of the reported horrors, he found enough to make the situation damning and to keep the reformers active. More profitable than to discuss how bad things are would be the discussion of how to make them better.

Biblical and Theological

Campbell's NEW THEOLOGY (Macmillan), Frederick Harrison's CREED OF A LAYMAN (Macmillan), Selleck's NEW APPRECIATION OF THE BIBLE (University of Chicago Press) and Gannett's big little book, A WICKET GATE TO THE BIBLE (Unitarian Sunday School, Boston), have already been noticed in the pages of UNITY and stand clearly among the noblest contributions of the year in this department. To this list may well be added Shailer Mathews' THE CHURCH AND THE CHANGING ORDER (Macmillan), Henry P. Forbes' THE JOHANNIAN LITERATURE AND THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES, being the last of the four international handbooks to the New Testament projected under the able leadership of the late lamented Prof. Orello Cone. Professor Mathews approaches the problem of the church from the standpoint of the sociologist rather than the theologist. The church began as a social movement, not as a doctrinal propaganda, and the church life is to be saved by moving the previous question, by quickening again the spirit of self-sacrifice. To quote his own phrase, "Young men who enter the ministry must be trained for practical efficiency as helpers of their fellow men and representatives of a Christianity of deeds rather than of beliefs."

Twenty years ago a notice of Professor Forbes' book would have called forth the significant statement that he is professor in the Universalist Theological School at Canton, N. Y., and consequently represents the "liberal" school of criticism. But such an announcement carries but little significance now, for there is no orthodoxy or heresy in the ranks of the Biblical critics of today.

Newton Mann's GREAT LITERATURE has passed into its second edition. Professor Moulton's BIBLE FOR MODERN READERS, which was first issued by the Macmillans in 22 volumes, has been revised and issued in one volume, and Prof. J. H. Gardiner, of the English Department in Harvard College, has issued a book on THE BIBLE AS ENGLISH LITERATURE (Scribners), all of which indicate the modern point of view, which is the academic point of view, viz., the Bible is not dogma but literature, and is to be studied as literature, and to discover in it the lights and shades, the variations, the contradictions and the inspirations of literature.

THE SOUL OF THE BIBLE (A. U. A.) is a series of selections arranged synthetically by Rev. Ulysses G. B. Pierce, of Washington, Pastor of the Unitarian church, with an introduction by Edward Everett Hale. It is an attempt to make more practical and efficient the literature values of the Bible by making a volume of high extracts suitable for private or public reading. It is a handsome volume and one that will provoke further reading and drive the dainty or lazy reader to the original source and thereby enjoy the passages all the more when discovered in their proper setting.

THE SOURCES OF OUR KNOWLEDGE OF THE LIFE OF JESUS (A. U. A.) is the last of the illuminating discussions in these directions by Prof. Paul Wernle, of the University of Basel.

THE CHRIST THAT IS TO BE (Macmillan) is the American title of an English book by the anonymous author of PRO CHRISTO ET ECCLESIA, entitled CHRISTUS FUTURUS. It is a scholarly attempt to discover "what the gospel of Jesus really is."

RELIGIOUS AND HISTORIC FAITHS (B. W. Huebsch, N. Y.) is the last translation from Professor Pfleiderer and presents in concise and attractive form brief estimates of the great religious systems of the world, Judaism and Christianity included.

THE MASTER OF THE MAN (Exodus Publishing Company, Chicago), by Ursula N. Gestefeld, is an interpretation of the life of Jesus from the standpoint of what is technically known as the "New Thought," of which cult Mrs. Gestefeld is a conspicuous and honored leader in Chicago. The first fundamental characteristic of this sect is its appeal of the case from the bar of physical science and external history to the court of metaphysics. It is a school of psychol-

ogy. This psychological appeal is profound, but to successfully apply is fraught with danger.

PRACTICAL HEALTH (The Metaphysical Publishing Company), by Leander Edmund Whipple, is another attempt to solve the problem of health and life through subjective instrumentalities.

INTRODUCTION TO THE TALMUD (Funk & Wagnalls), by M. Mielziner; SUFFERINGS OF THE JEWS DURING THE MIDDLE AGES (Block Publishing Company, N. Y.), by Leopold Zunz; HISTORY OF THE MEDIAEVAL JEWS, by Morris H. Harris, Ph. D., published by the author in New York, are three valuable books throwing light upon subjects too much neglected. A study of them will enlighten Christians concerning matters of which they have been too long criminally ignorant.

TABULAR VIEW OF UNIVERSAL HISTORY (Putnams), by George Palmer Putnam, is, as the name indicates, a volume of elaborate chronological tables representing the progress of society from 5000 B. C. to 1907 A. D., a work representing mountainous diligence.

GLORIA CHRISTUS (Macmillan), an outline study of missions and social progress, by Anna R. B. Lindsay, is the last in the series of "United Studies of Missions" which have been noted from time to time in these columns.

CHILDREN OF THE BIBLE (Unitarian Sunday School Society), by Lilian Plackett Poor, a happy compilation of pictures and stories for Sunday School classes.

STUDIES IN THE BOOK OF JOB (Scribners), one more of the too long series of helps for the study of the "International Lesson Series" in Sunday Schools. It represents much good work in a bad method.

GOSPEL DEVELOPMENT (Synoptic Publishing Company). One more attempt at a comparative study of the Four Gospels, now from the standpoint of modern scholarship, using the American Revised Version of the New Testament, an elaborate work of three hundred octavo pages, filled with close parallel column work. Of the success of this work only an expert has a right to an opinion; of the commendable purpose, the attractive scheme and vast labor, we feel qualified to commend and to admire.

THE BIBLE, WHAT IT IS AND WHAT IT IS NOT (American Unitarian Association), by Joseph Wood. Another attempt to answer the above question from the standpoint of modern thought and rational scholarship; the extent of the demand is proven by the number of the answers attempted.

THE HISTORICAL EVIDENCE FOR THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST (Putnams), by Kirsopp Lake, Professor of New Testament Exegesis, University of Leiden; one more of the many Bible books of the year, indicating the marvelous activity on these lines. Here is the labored and scholarly attempt to sift the New Testament evidence and to analyze the conclusions based thereon. While abandoning as resting on inadequate basis the physical resurrection, the author retains a possible psychical phenomena such as the Psychical Research societies deal with.

Sermons and Essays

Notwithstanding the apparent popular approval of the phrase, "the foolishness of preaching," and the warning of publishers that "sermons do not sell," still they will do it in increasing number and the books in increasing number and ever enlarging variety in form and manner.

THE TEMPLE OF VIRTUE, by Paul Frothingham (Houghton Mifflin); CONCERNING LIFE, by George Dimmick Latimer (American Unitarian Association); MORNINGS IN THE COLLEGE CHAPEL, by Francis G. Peabody, of Harvard University (Houghton Mifflin); THE WAY TO HAPPINESS, by Thomas Slicer (Macmillan); THE KINGDOM OF LOVE, by Henry Frank (R. F. Fenno & Co.); THE CHORUS OF PEACE, a sermon by Paul Frothingham (George H. Ellis Company, Boston); THE COMING PEOPLE, by Charles F. Dole, fifth edition, (T. Y. Crowell & Co.); THE MAKING OF RELIGION, by Samuel M. Crothers (American Unitarian Association); SOCIAL AND RELIGIOUS IDEALS, a rich book of sermon extracts by Artemas Jean Haynes (Scribners); LOVE AND LOYALTY, by Jenkin Lloyd Jones; are the titles of the sermon books that are left on the editorial table at this annual round-up, all testifying to the vitality, earnestness and progressiveness of the American pulpit, which, however things may seem, is not decadent and not likely to be outgrown.

Then again JONATHAN UPGLADE, by Wilfrid Earl Chase (Cantwell Printing Company, Madison, Wis.); THE GOLDEN CRISIS, by Egbert Norman Clark (Oasis Publishing Company); THE TRUE OBJECT OF LIFE, George Frederick Jefs, Hamilton, Canada; THE TEMPLE OF LOVE, by Newlandsmith (Longman's, London); THE WATER-STAR, George H. Badger (American Unitarian Association); THE FIRST TRUE GENTLEMAN, with foreword by Edward Everett Hale (J. W. Luce, Boston); THE NEW SPIRIT, by Bipinchandra Pal of Calcutta, India; THE IMMORTALITY OF THE SOUL IN THE POEMS OF TENNYSON AND BROWNING, by Prof. Henry Jones, of Glasgow University (American Unitarian Association). These titles indicate the activity of laymen as well as ministers in trying to give expression to the ideals of life and embodying the same in skillful phrase and beautiful form. They also testify to the activities of conscience as well as of mind. The missionaries are not all dead yet.

Christmas Books

All the above books were published with the general reader in view and represent the all-the-year-round activities, but we cannot wholly escape the spell of the season. Here is a handful of books in brilliant colors and flaming pages evidently designed to catch the eye of Santa Claus and to please his children. When it comes to fairy tales the older are the better, and so we have here in brilliant color and apt illus-

tration a new edition of The Arabian Nights, edited and arranged by E. Dixon with forty-four illustrations (Putnams). From the same press in ample page and handsome binding and striking illustration the perpetual classic, Jules Verne's TWENTY THOUSAND LEAGUES UNDER THE SEAS.

THE OLIVE FAIRY BOOK, edited by Andrew Lang (Longmans), is given a setting worthy the fairies and their great master, Andrew Lang. A pretty book with matter that appeals to children of all ages, from eight to eighty.

THE LITTLE COLONEL'S KNIGHT COMES RIDING (L. C. Page & Co.), by Annie Fellows Johnston, is a book that in substance and form will compel for itself a place in Santa Claus' pack. As to the literary value of these books, consult the readers of the Little Colonel series, which now contains nine titles.

THE COUNTRY CHRISTMAS (L. C. Page), by Frances Margaret Fox, illustrated by Etheldred B. Barry, is a book for the little ones. RED FEATHERS, by Theodore Roberts, is a book for the bigger boys, full of Indians and things. THE LEGEND OF THE BLEEDING HEART (L. C. Page & Co.), a small and tender story, daintily printed, by Annie Fellows Johnston.

The Hoeman's Thanksgiving

I count up in this song of cheer
The blessings of a busy year.
A roof so low I lose no strain,
No ripple of the friendly rain;
A chimney where all winter long
The logs give back the wild bird's song.

A field, a neighborly old ground,
Which, year by year, without a sound,
Lifts bread to me and roses sweet
From out the dark below my feet.

The tree-toad that is first to cheer
With crinkling flute the green o' the year;
The cricket on the garden mound,
Stitching the dark with threads of sound.

The wind that cools my hidden spring
And sets my cornfield whispering;
And shades across, to lightly blow
Green ripples from the apple row.

The shy paths darting through the wheat,
Marked by the prints of little feet—
Gray squirrels on their thrifty round,
Crows condescending to the ground.

That leafy hollow that was stirred
A hundred mornings by a bird
That sang at daybreak on a brier,
Setting the gray of dawn afire!

The lone star and the shadowed hush
That come at evening, when the thrush
Ravels the day, so worn and long,
Into the silver of a song.

The tender sorrow, too, that came
To leave me nevermore the same;
The love and memories, and the wild
Light laughter of a little child.

Thoughts of the Wonder that awaits
The soul beyond the Darkened Gates,
That old, old Mystery that springs
Deathless, behind the veil of things.

This is my rosary of hours,
Inwoven of the snows and flowers—
The year that runs from young to old,
A glint of green, a glow of gold.

—*Edward Markham.*

THE STUDY TABLE

Christianity and the Social Crisis.

Professor Rauschenbusch is one of the exceptional men in this respect: It is not uncommon to be able to see that the social world has remade itself over and over again in the past, and nothing very far out of the ordinary is involved in being able to tell a rather straight story about some of these bygone changes. In spite of brave attempts to prove the contrary, there is only here and there a man, however, who has really digested the idea that his own social world is rushing through an evolutionary cycle, and still less frequent are the men who can specify particulars of the conditions from which and to which we are now tending. The useful interpreter of society is this rare type of seer. He neither stops with rehearsing the past, nor tricks his public by distracting attention to fancy pictures of the future. He makes the present a real problem. He shows where the running gear chafes and binds and clogs, he detects our present failures to accomplish our best purposes, and he is quite composed and matter-of-fact in drawing conclusions that our methods and machineries, along with large sections of our traditions, must be retired in favor of improved types of ways and means if the evolutionary process is not to pause on a dead center till our generation ceases to number the ground. Professor Rauschenbusch is in the line of trained men, who can say to their generation with some degree of convincing force, "'*Now* is the judgment of this world,' *now* must the prince of this world be cast out."

The book in the first place is a proclamation to Christendom that organized Christianity does not know the signs of the times. This theme is treated so frankly that no one who is open to conviction has any right to withhold his vote for the verdict, "guilty as charged." Again it is an appeal to the conscience of Christendom to burden itself with the real wants of living men. The base of attack is historical. The vitality of the religion of Israel and of Jesus is found in "the essential purpose to transform human society into the kingdom of God by regenerating all human relations and reconstituting them in accordance with the will of God." Certain types of people regard religion as nothing if not occult. To them, of course, the author's interpretation is merely the basic heresy of secularization. Other types presume that the credentials of religion must at least include provision for taking hold of the social process wherever it finds it, and for moving human relations from worse toward better at every point of contact. These latter are bound to pronounce Professor Rauschenbusch's brief on this part of the case so strong that it is not likely to be successfully answered.

The author seems to regard the fourth chapter as the central strategic point in the book. It opens the question why the Christian church has never undertaken to carry out the fundamental purpose of its existence. The reason why this chapter and all that depends on it will command relatively little hearing, runs back to the state of mind in the Christian world about the previous question. In plain language, the prevailing estimate of religion is that it has essentially the same relation to this world that life-preservers have to a ship at sea. So long as the ship serves its purpose the life-preservers are merely top-hamper. They are of no use except in a prospective

*By Walter Rauschenbusch, Professor of Church History in Rochester Theological Seminary. The Macmillan Company. Pp. xv—429.

way, and in that light their presence aboard imparts a certain tone of peace and assurance to the passengers. When the voyage of life is over people are supposed to realize on their previous investment in religion.

I cannot go with the author without qualifications in the fifth chapter, "The Present Crisis." One cannot say all that needs to be said, nor even all that at present may be said, about "the present crisis" in less than a voluminous treatise on general sociology, and a single chapter necessarily treats light and shade in a way that disturbs those who are prying into further details. The argument seems to me to run along the lines of the most constant fallacy in all modern social science, namely the assumption that the accidents of the present stage of social evolution are nearer to essentials and more universal in their meaning than is really the case. The chapter seems to me to find the elements of the social process altogether too near the surface. The radical problem at the present moment, and that not as an academic question but as the principal girder in the social structure, is whether the central calculation in life is to be capital or people. If there is another question which approaches this in importance it is whether conventionality or actual service creates the essential moral title to property. The labor question, as popularly understood, the land question, etc., are merely incidents in which these radical problems emerge. The real crisis consists in the fundamental need here and now of thoroughgoing reconsideration, without prejudice, fear or favor, of the moral basis of our social traditions, and in resistance of the demand by the stand-pat type of people in all strata of society. Anything short of this is a more or less futile makeshift, which possibly mitigates evils, but merely drags out the interval before we are ready for changes in principle. I do not mean that Professor Rauschenbusch holds a different view but that it does not come out clearly enough in this summary chapter. There are strong statements of missing aspects of the case elsewhere (e. g. pp. 369 sq.).

There is good psychology in the sixth chapter in appealing to the church for enlistment in social tasks on the ground that the church, as such, has a stake in the social movement. It is the same appeal which, consciously or unconsciously, has turned the balance of the more disinterested motives in the most strenuous passages of Christian enterprise, the crusades, the reformations, the commercial or military or missionary missions of pagan lands.

The closing chapter contains elements that do not seem to me well considered. This is largely, to be sure, the necessary result of an attempt to say so much about so many things in so cramped a space. Most of these things are well said. For instance, one of the beginnings of wisdom is contained in the pregnant sentence, "The greatest contribution which any man can make to the social movement is the contribution of a regenerated personality, of a will which sets justice above policy and profit, and of an intellect emancipated from falsehood" (p. 351). Equally true, if not so profound, is this: "Unless a minister consciously puts himself into contact with the working classes by attending their meetings and reading their literature, he will assume that he is judging fairly, whereas he has never heard more than one side. If he attends the dinners of the Chamber of Commerce, he must take socialist street meetings as an antidote. Socialism has fully as much claim on his intellect as Robert Browning" (p. 362).

On the other hand, the book comes to the lame and impotent conclusion, "therefore Socialism" (p. 407). In my judgment no man who is charged with the enlightenment of his fellows is blameless if he sets up such an equivocal goal as "socialism," unless he has more time and space than Professor Rauschenbusch left for this part of his argument to show precisely what type of socialism he means, and just the sense in which he means it.

For the class of readers who go to books to settle things I would not recommend this volume at all. It should be worth a great deal to earnest people who are mature and judicious enough properly to use a book whose almost every line stirs the pulse and the brain.

ALBION W. SMALL.

Some Recent Books

THE NEW THEOLOGY.

Probably no one name has been more prominently associated with the radical and revolutionary in theology during recent years than that of Rev. R. J. Campbell, minister of the City Temple in London, who has published two books during recent months. The earlier of these volumes* was meant to be a scientific and argumentative statement of Mr. Campbell's theological positions, but its value will hardly be said to consist in its systematic theology. The book is exceedingly well written and fully merits its very remarkable sale, but when we find Mr. Campbell asserting "I believe what the creeds say about the person of Jesus" (p. 72) and "I believe that Jesus was very God" (p. 81) and other similar statements, scholars of both schools will be compelled to say this is a mere juggling with words. Again when Jesus is identified with the "Eternal Humanity" of God and is called the "Eternal Christ," even while "His consciousness was as purely human as our own," we agree with Dr. G. B. Smith that Mr. Campbell's Jesus is rather the "apothesis of a concept" than an historical personage. Moreover, scholarship today is loath to dogmatize on the sinlessness and uniqueness of Jesus as Mr. Campbell seems to do. On the other hand, the book is a splendid challenge to put into the hands of both preachers and laymen and cannot fail to reveal to every thoughtful reader the absurdity of many old dogmas. It is not a theological treatise but it is a mighty and powerful appeal to the common sense of the mass of humanity. It will be of great service to the Kingdom.

The volume of sermons* probably will not be so largely read, but its intrinsic worth seems to us considerably greater, and it surely reveals the preachableness and potency of the "new" theology as the earlier book cannot. Of the twenty sermons in this volume more than half center about the person of the Master, and none will deny that a real artist and poet of the soul paints the picture of that matchless love and unselfish ministry which is an endless inspiration to all the children of the Infinite. While frankly confessing the difficulties of the historical facts, Mr. Campbell never fails to reveal the unlosable grandeur of the Christ message. In his sermons on the Risen Christ and Resurrection Power, for example, he strongly portrays the spiritual lessons and teaches the imperishable quality of goodness, the immortal power of the Christ life, in no wise dependent upon the critical study of the historical facts. The introduction to this volume is a magnificent challenge to the church and a master painting of its battlefield. He says:

*The New Theology, by R. J. Campbell. Crown, 8vo, clo., 258 pp. $1.50 net. The Macmillan Company, New York.

*New Theology Sermons, by R. J. Campbell. Crown, 8vo, 294 pp. $1.25 net. The Macmillan Company, New York.

"Our whole industrial life today is based upon a principle which is fundamentally anti-Christian, and the Church of Jesus ought to wage open war upon it until it is gone forever. Coöperation must replace competition; brotherhood must replace individualism; the weakest (morally and physically) must be the objects of the tenderest care which the community can show; selfishness must be driven out by love. This is the whole Christian programme; nothing less than this represents the mind of Jesus, and nothing other than this ought ever to have been preached in his name."

A RELIGIOUS HANDBOOK.*

Another volume has been added to the notable series of Constructive Bible Studies, issued by the University Press, which is intended for advanced classes and supplementary reading; it is, in fact, a brief "survey of the whole religious field in a small, readable, trustworthy book." This volume will not secure the popularity which it really merits, for it is admirably fitted for the "clear-eyed middleman between the specialists and the ordinary readers," and for all thoughtful people who realize the necessity of laying new and ultimate spiritual foundations in this transitional age. The first part of the volume is given to a general discussion on religious life and literature and the necessary equipments for a study of the same, including common sense as well as spiritual insight, scholarship, and historical interpretation. The second part discusses the Bible and its times, revealing something of the social and scientific conditions under which the Bible was written and by a knowledge of which it must be interpreted. While the author reveals a broad acquaintance with modern scholarship and is always scientific, he errs, if at all, on the side of conservatism, as for example in Chapter IX on Jesus as the Christ; this confining himself to a mere statement of established facts will, however, commend his book to all classes of readers. The latter two-thirds of the volume is given to a survey of the whole field of church history and contains a brief and untechnical history of dogma, a simple yet scholarly statement of the process and progress of the science of theology, of the modern development of historical criticism and the rationalistic movement, and yet does all of this as a mere incident to a survey of Christianity in its varied forms and forces as it marches forward to the redemption of the earth. In brevity and completeness, in breadth of view and accuracy of detail, in sanity and spiritual warmth of conceptions, this small volume is a veritable encyclopædia of Christianity without an equal or even a rival in its chosen field. The appendix contains a wealth of scripture references, as well as a list of questions for review and examination, which, together with a complete index, greatly add to the value of the book. We heartily recommend it and hope our fear as to its popularity may prove unfounded.

ILLUSTRATED FICTION.

When a prince of story tellers and an enthusiast among anglers and nature lovers takes "a day off" and talks about it—not "to prove anything or convince anybody or convey any profitable instruction"—the result could not fail to be as charming and invigorating as a "Holiday in a Vacation," which is the humorously suggestive title of the first story. Philosophy is not wholly lacking nor are life problems entirely forgotten, but always it is the day-off philosophy and the gladsome life which appears. One is left to wonder whether Bolton Chichester really lost his bride, when his long battle with a forty-eight-pound salmon made him late to his wedding, and also it is hard to classify the nature study of "Silver Horns," but "Little Red Tom" adds the needed touch of fun and philosophy both for the nature fakirs and the vegetarians. The appetizing description of the sweets and blessings of bacon may not totally eclipse Charles Lamb and his roast pig, but for a day-off what could be more appealing than broiled bacon, which our author tells us is "crisp, juicy, savory; delicately salt as the breeze that blows from the sea; . . . aromatic, appetizing, nourishing, a stimulant to the hunger, which it appeases; 'tis the matured bloom and the consummation of the mild little pig, spared by foresight for a nobler fate than juvenile roasting, and brought by art and man's device to a perfection surpassing nature." Beautifully tinted illustrations, attractive typography, and an unusually artistic cover combine to secure this volume a chief place among holiday gift books.

Illustration from "Aunt Jane of Kentucky."

AUNT JANE OF KENTUCKY.

A delightful story of rural life a half century ago entitled "Aunt Jane of Kentucky," which President Roosevelt, among others, called "a charming little book by a clever woman of Kentucky," has recently come from the press (Little, Brown & Co., $1.50), in a new and attractive edition with illustrations in black and white by Beulah Strong. The book is delightful in its humor, oftimes keen in its satire, almost poetic in its beauty and vision, heart touching in its pathos, and withal has a homely earnestness and rugged honesty of character that will always awaken a note of sympathy in every normal heart. It is a woman's story, but not a few husbands and good church deacons would be helped by reading it. The new edition is a great improvement and the illustrations exceedingly praiseworthy.

A NOVEL BY MC CUTCHEON.

UNITY is late in finding opportunity to call attention to the very readable story which the always entertaining George Barr McCutcheon has labeled "Jane Cable". The heroine supposes herself to be what

*Christianity and Its Bible, by Henry F. Waring. Cloth, 12mo, 369 pp. U. of C. Press. $1 prepaid.

*"Days-Off," by Henry Van Dyke. Chas. Scribner's Sons. Price $1.50.

*Jane Cable, by George Barr McCutcheon. Cloth, 12mo, 336 pp. $1.50. Dodd, Mead & Co.

everyone calls her, the talented and only daughter of a railway president, everywhere a social favorite; but after becoming engaged to the equally honored and respected son of a rich lawyer she is suddenly informed that, a waif of unknown parentage, she has been adopted by her foster-mother. This is a prostrating blow to the high-spirited girl, who confesses her love for Graydon Bensemer, who is as noble as his father is criminal, but for years her consuming misery is, "I have no right to be alive; I cannot be the wife of any man." Graydon joins the army, and so Jane Cable joins the Red Cross and nurses her lover back to life, but yet still refuses to marry him until finally Elias Droom, a curiously consistent bundle of greed and heart and hate, leads the young couple to the prison where Graydon's father is confined and then tells the names of Jane's parents, from whom she had received the strength and spirit of high lineage, and then bids them live their own lives, not that of their parents. The story is chiefly potent in portraying the significance of social standing, the problem of heredity, the power of vultures of the law to blackmail and the haste of newspapers to crucify the good and bad alike for public delectation. Even if this novel does not quite rise to the level of the "Graustark" stories, it nevertheless reveals the well known qualities of the author, and has already received a generous welcome. C. A. O.

YALE LECTURES.

This volume of Yale lectures* by the Congregational pastor at Oakland, Cal., is a capital response to such a challenge to the church as that contained in Rauschenbusch's "Christianity and the Social Crisis." It is a good example of the ingenious use of the scriptures to drive home the social message. Taking Pharaoh and Moses and the Israelites for his point of departure, on the next page we find him hobnobbing with Jacob Riis and John Mitchell and Jane Addams and Robert Hunter. Those who are fond of their Bibles will enjoy the suggestive uses made of incidents in the Exodus. Others can skip these and pass over to the running comment on present-day social conditions. One may not be sure that the Israelites learned all these wonderful lessons from their wilderness experience, but they are certainly the lessons which we need to learn today. While not claiming to make any original contribution to the study of the social question, the book will do valuable service in bringing sharply to the attention of church people the social problems and duties of the hour. Dr. Brown would perhaps be described as a Christian Socialist of a sober, sensible and modern type. The Israelites are to reach the promised land "not by the way of the land of the Philistines, although that was near"; they were to go a longer journey through the wilderness. In other words, he is a Fabian. He sees clearly that "our most dangerous enemies today are not the low-browed criminals who occasionally rob the till of a store or break the head of some lonely passerby in the street. These are only the mosquitoes of the jungle." The tigers are "the men who by their wicked methods in commercial transactions lower the tone of our national life." The church comes in for its full share of castigation, as in these sentences: "Laboring men . . . do not believe that church membership on the part of their landlord insures just and considerate treatment for his tenants. They do not flock to merchants who acknowledge Christ as their master, in confidence that they will, merely on that account, receive of them honest goods for a fair price." There is a word of irony for ministers, getting together in their associations and reading papers on "How to Reach the Masses," "deciding perhaps that it can be done with a little more music, or a bit more of advertising, or with more handshaking at the door of the church"—when all about them are "thousands of weary, beaten, baffled men and women," who hearken not to the prophet "for anguish of spirit and for cruel bondage." Above all, he tells us that the type of leadership needed is not to be found in "angels of economic wisdom sitting comfortably apart in well-endowed university chairs, or archangels of piety standing up in well-supported, well-guarded pulpits, lecturing the humble toilers on their shortcomings," but rather in "someone who has himself done rough work, earned his bread by the sweat of his brow, kept warm his sympathies with the wage-earning millions by actually sharing their lot, yet who is withal wise and just." Such an one "must come to state the message of God to his fellows in the language in which they were born, and to point the way by walking in it on his own two feet." W. B. T.

*"The Social Message of the Modern Pulpit," by Charles R. Brown, D. D., pp. 291. Scribners.

THE WATCH TOWER

Watchman, tell us of the night;
What its signs of promise are!

The Week

The President's Message.

The message from the White House to the new Congress certainly was not disappointing in breadth of view, physically at any rate, nor in its length—which was about 35,000 words—nor in its vigorous handling of the financial problem and the question of harmful corporations. Nothing in the message indicated any important change in the well known policies of the President, but his championship of inland waterways, of postal savings banks and the parcels post, of compulsory investigation of strikes and lockouts, of the protection of forests and other natural resources, etc., will add to the popular interest in these newer enterprises. His suggestion of a national appropriation for a campaign fund for each of the great national parties, and the limitation in size of individual subscription, is both new and startling. The message as a whole is that of a thoroughgoing federalist and as such is distinctly opposed to Jeffersonian democracy. This is undoubtedly the point where Justice Brewer and many others take issue with Mr. Roosevelt and apparently the old question of states' rights, supposed to have been settled in the '60's, will be an exceedingly live issue in the coming campaign.

Strange Decision by Chicago Judge.

Municipal Judge Scovell, sitting in Judge Cleland's usual place in the Maxwell Street Court, discharged a prisoner last week for reasons that have been called bad law and worse morals. A negro was brought into court, charged with attempted assault on a young woman, his purpose only being frustrated by a great Dane dog which was aroused by the struggle. The charge was not denied, but the prisoner pleaded drunkenness and former good moral character. On this plea the judge discharged the prisoner, but later, on the plea of the Assistant State's Attorney, Judge Cleland reinstated the case against the negro. Many judges and laymen agree in severely criticising the action of Judge Scovell, who seemed to put a premium on drunkenness and to remove all responsibility for crime committed when in that condition.

Who Will Be Nominated?

Walter Wellman some time ago returned from his search for the North Pole, and is now back at his old stand searching for political secrets in Washington. Many people were surprised to read his confident statement in the *Record-Herald* recently that while President Roosevelt was frankly supporting Secretary Taft, yet in the event that the latter could not be nominated and the convention should demand Mr. Roosevelt himself, the President would not feel that his election night pledge would justify his refusing the nomination. Both because he is not a man to surrender to his enemies, and because he has always said that when any man was drafted by his party its mandate must be obeyed, Mr. Wellman asserts that either Taft or Roosevelt will be nominated at Chicago. C. A. O.

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"The World is my Country, to do good is my Religion."

Foreign Notes

GENEVA'S "ESCALADE"; THE RECLAMATION OF AN HISTORIC HOLIDAY.

As UNITY goes to press this week, the citizens of Geneva will be celebrating for the three hundred and sixth time their national winter holiday, the anniversary of the unsuccessful attempt of the duke of Savoy to take this stronghold of protestantism by surprise on the night between the 11th and 12th of December, 1602. Aside from the historic importance of this escape, which can hardly be over estimated, there are many interesting traditions connected with the event and some of the contemporary illustrations of it are quaint in the extreme.

For many generations a service of Thanksgiving in the churches regularly formed an important part of the annual observance, but this feature was long since abandoned, except when the anniversary falls on a Sunday. Other features in the meantime, such as the bands of singers going from house to house singing the song of the Escalade, have survived but in a distorted and degenerate form that, by transforming the day into a sort of carnival, robbed it of much of its significance.

Particularly since 1902, when there was a special observance of the three hundredth anniversary, a persistent and well-directed attempt has been made to reclaim this day and lift it to higher uses. This effort is meeting with encouraging support. This year the committee in charge announces a carefully planned historical procession under expert direction. It will consist of two parts, the first, with some 150 or 200 participants, including thirty-five or forty horsemen, will give a faithful reproduction of the time of the Escalade. The second will be made up of two detachments of old grenadiers, followed by historic groups of all periods down to the present. Corporations, too, will be represented, and humorous features are promised, but no mere clowns and buffoons or vulgar representations will be admitted.

An escort of 500 torch-bearers will accompany the participants and the line of march will be illuminated by Bengal lights. The committee asks for two or three hundred school children, from twelve to fifteen years of age, to form part of this escort. It assures their parents that the kind of torches they will carry do not drip, so that their need be no anxiety about their clothes. The committee further states that if any parents should feel willing to authorize their children to provide themselves with the costumes of students of the olden time, it will be much appreciated, and tells them to whom to apply for indications as to what such costumes ought to be.

This procession is arranged for the evening of December 11. During the afternoon of that day there will be representations, in different parts of the city, of scenes that took place on the day following the attack. When will any American city utilize as wisely any of our historic days?

Unfortunately, I cannot reproduce for you the quaint colored print that lies before me, illustrating all the traditional incidents of that memorable night; the Savoyards, with their scaling ladders, thrown back headlong from the battlements, the "Jesuit" promising paradise to those who might perish in the attack, the thrifty and valiant housewife knocking over a soldier with her well-aimed "marmite," full of boiling lye, the suddenly aroused citizens rushing to the defense in their night-clothes, the gallows on which the captured were summarily strung up to meet Beza's astonished eyes in the market-place next morning, and so forth, but there may be those who will peruse with interest some stanzas of the accompanying:

CHANSON DE L'ESCALADE.

Allons, citoyens, de grand coeur,
Réveillons ici notre ardeur
Pour chanter les exploits
Des vaillants Genevois.
Du temps de l'Escalade,
Savoyard, Savoyard,
Du temps de l'Escalade,
Savoyard, gard, gard.

Ce fut l'an mil six cent et deux
Qu'on vit ces Savoyards furieux
Dans l'ombre de la nuit,
Violer notre réduit.
Ah! la belle Escalade,
Savoyard, Savoyard,
Ah! la belle Escalade,
Savoyard, gard, gard.

* * *

Le Ciel, qui veillait sur l'Etat,
Permit que d'un brave soldat
Un canon ajusté

Highly Commended

A handsome and attractive volume bound in navy blue cloth with red and white lettering and a United States Flag on the back comes from the press of the UNITY PUBLISHING COMPANY bearing the title

Mother Bickerdyke As I Knew Her

Many UNITY readers who saw the serial articles by Mrs. Florence Shaw Kellogg, published in these columns last year, will welcome the publication in book form of a most interesting and painstaking narrative of the inspiring service of this noble woman, as it is given by her intimate friend. The value of the book is greatly increased by the introduction by Jenkin Lloyd Jones—who was one of Mother Bickerdyke's hospital boys—and by an appendix describing the National Monument, recently erected at Galesburg, Illinois, together with fine portraits of Mrs. Bickerdyke and of the monument, and pictures of the two houses in which Mother Bickerdyke was born and died.

The book is ordinary 12mo in size and contains 176 pages and will be sent postpaid by the publishers for 75c.

Unity Publishing Company

Les fit tous culbuter.
Ah! la belle Escalade, etc.

* * *

Une vieille, au poing vigoreux,
Prit sa marmite sur le feu,
Sans attendre plus tard
Coiffa un Savoyard.
Ah! la belle Escalade, etc.

Un jésuite très-furieux
Exhortait l'es moins valeureux
Avec des passeports
A passer chez les morts.
Ah! la belle Escalade, etc.

L'alarme enfin se répondit,
Chacun d'un saut quitta son lit,
Et, lorsqu 'ils combattaient,
Sans culotte ils etaient.
Ah! la belle Escalade, etc.

Pendant un bruit si étonnant
Bèze dormait profondemant,
Quand le jour fut venu
Il les vit tous pendus,
Ah! la belle Escalade, etc.

Nous, qui chantons d'un coeur joyeux
La Gloire de nos chers aieux,
Cherchons, à notre tour,
D'imiter leur amour.
Ah! la belle Escalade,
Genevois, Genevois,
Ah! la belle Escalade,
Genevois, cette fois!

A foot-note informs the reader that this song appeared on the occasion of the festival of the Escalade, suppressed in 1782, and which has just been re-established by the revolutionary government.

The first two lines of each stanza are repeated. M. E. H.

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